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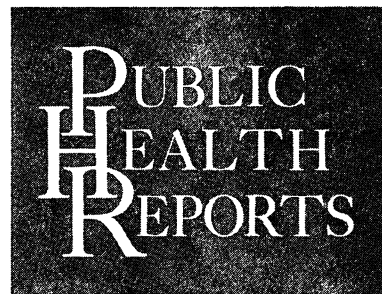
frontispiece

Annual incidence in the United States of treated snakebites inflicted by venomous species such as this rattlesnake *Crotalus horridus* is reported to be 3.74 bites per 100,000 population, with a case-fatality rate of 0.51 percent (see pp. 269-276).

—*Smithsonian Institution photograph*

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